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### Montana Supreme Court to hear cases at UM

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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April 5, 2005

**Contact:** Shelly Hopkins, director of external relations, UM School of Law, (406) 243-4319.

### **MONTANA SUPREME COURT TO HEAR CASES AT UM**

#### **MISSOULA —**

The Montana Supreme Court will hear the appeals of two criminal convictions Friday, April 15, at The University of Montana.

The state's top court will examine "State of Montana vs. Gregory Michael Mizenko" and "State of Montana vs. Joseph Paoni" at 9:30 a.m. in the University Theatre. Professor Andrew King-Ries will provide an introduction, and the event is open to the public.

One of the cases involves an assault against the defendant's wife, and the other relates to an assault against a brother. In both cases, the alleged victims did not testify at trial. However, 911 operators and police officers were permitted to testify as to their conversations with the alleged victims.

The Constitution provides defendants the right to confront witnesses against them. The issue before the Supreme Court is whether the admission of statements from neighbors and other witnesses (not the alleged victims) violates that right.

For more information, call the UM School of Law at (406) 243-4319.

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